

PREFACE

Acta Climatologica of this year is the 30th and also a jubilee volume. The publication of the periodical has been closely linked with the academic activity of the Departments of Geography and Climatology of the University of Szeged. We have to pay our attention to the evolution of these departments and also to the history of the periodical.

The Department of Geography of the University of Szeged was established in 1921 when certain sections/departments of the University of Kolozsvár were removed to our city/Szeged. The physical geography of atmosphere was among the first courses held by famous climatologists like Gábor Schilling, Károly Kogutowitz, Alfréd Hille. Richárd Wagner, the establisher of the present Department of Climatology, participated in presenting lectures in connection with climatology as early as in the 1930's. From 1930, he conducted the practice "Geographical instrumental and mapping techniques". Even as a young scientist, he devoted care to giving a forum of the students' and the academic-researchers' results. This was first realized by publishing the "Geographical seminars", the periodical which, however, existed only for 2 years. After the World War 2, the education of climatology was involved in the activities of the Department of Geography led by Gyula Prinz. In 1952, climatology split off from the Department of Geography, with the name of Department of Geography 2. Then, from September of 1953, the Department of Climatology made the climatological research and education independent from geography. Richárd Wagner, the head of the new department conducted the high-standard microclimatological research at the department. The first results of these research can be found still in the *Acta Geographica*, in the articles of Wagner, R.; Kiss, Á.; Andó, M.. The first volume of *Acta Climatologica* was published in 1959.

The volume presented 5 studies which demonstrated the results of the microclimatological research of the Department of Climatology. Among these, there are the issues of microclimatological research carried out on the sand-surfaces of the Great Plain, on different floras and in 3 factories of Szeged. Up to Wagner's death in 1972, 8 high-level volumes came out edited by him in which Wagner, R.; Horváth, I.; Kiss, Á.; Boros, J.; Juhász, J.; Bárány-Kevei, I. published their studies. Several famous Hungarian climatologists including Béll, B. and Takács, J. as well as foreign authors also published studies in the *Acta*. The volumes of the *Acta Climatologica* were often referred to abroad, too, and its studies were cited quite frequently.

The Tomus XII. (Volume 9) was edited by the new head of the department, György Péczely, in 1973. There was a change in the profile of the research, and though there were still some studies issued on microclimatology, macroclimate research was beginning to be dominant. Besides Péczely's high-standard publications, numerous home researchers also represented themselves in these volumes. There were studies by young researchers like Makra, L.; Pelle, L. on the anomaly of temperature and precipitation on the Great Plain and on the distribution of air pressure fields. After Péczely's death in 1985, one volume was edited by Jakucs, L. in which Péczely's colleagues, and the future head of department, György Koppány, published articles. The volumes which were edited by Péczely, Gy. mark an important and

high-level period in the life of the periodical, which include many issues that attracted attention abroad, too.

From 1989, 4 volumes were edited by György Koppány. The department and the periodical as well observed the traditional macroclimatological profile. Besides the editor, who published more articles on regional climatology, former authors: Kiss, Á.; Makra, L. also issued their experiments. Unger, J.'s studies on urban climate and some other correspondents Bartholy, J.; Mika, J.; Bérczy, Sz. also appeared in these volumes. In the latest volume, two Transylvanian studies were published. In one of them, Urdea, P. and Sarbovan, C. present the morphoclimatical outline of the Romanian Carpathians. The other was made by Pálffy, E. who studied the formation of inversion of temperature in the Csik (Ciuc) Basin.

This short summary cannot undertake to show the professional profile of the periodical in its entirety. The few data and subject indication give merely a short introduction to the achievements of the scientific workshop which issues the 30th volume of the Acta. The volumes of Acta Climatologica which have been published so far, represent the research work and the results of the Department of Climatology of the University of Szeged. The further assignment of the preface can only be to commend the new, jubilee volume to the readers' kind attention and at same time, to thank the authors' and editors' for the assistance to produce and maintain the high-standard scientific periodical.

The national and international research on macroclimate will play a more and more significant role in the prediction and evaluation of the effects of global change of environment. But the local change of environment and the change of life standard require the research of mezo- and micro-regions' climate. Acta Climatologica is willing to present the results of the above mentioned research. I wish the editor board the best to continuing their successful research and to publishing the high-standard periodical.

Szeged, May 1996

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